



## News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &  
Thunder Basin National Grassland  
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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### **Heavy Rains on Arapaho Fire Area Create Road Damage**

**(DOUGLAS, Wyo.) July 26, 2012** – Recent, isolated but heavy rains on the Laramie Peak unit of the Medicine Bow National Forest have resulted in road damage in and around parts of the Arapaho Fire.

Some areas burned by the nearly 100,000-acre fire have a reduced capacity to fully absorb rain and slow down run-off produced by recent thunderstorms. This has resulted in damage to many sections of Forest roads.

Bear Creek, Cottonwood Park and Fletcher Park roads have all experienced some level of damage from the water. The damage varies from road surface being washed away to grooves and channels being carved into the road base.

Drivers should use extreme caution when driving on these roads, especially at night or when it is raining. Additional washing or road damage could occur at any time and users of Laramie Peak area roads should be on high alert.

The public should also be aware that fire crews are still in the area, monitoring hot spots on the Arapaho Fire and responding to new starts. Periods of increased fire activity in unburned portions of the Arapaho Fire may continue until a season-ending precipitation event suppresses remaining hot spots. Smoke from those hot spots should be expected, as the hit-and-miss thunderstorms have not spread enough widespread moisture to completely put out the fire.

New wildland fires should be reported by calling Casper Dispatch at 307-261-7691 or 911.

The public is also reminded that Stage 2 Fire Restrictions remain in effect on the Medicine Bow National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grassland. The Routt National Forest has fallen back to Stage 1 Fire Restrictions.

For additional information please contact the Douglas Ranger District at 307-358-4690, visit <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr> or follow news on Twitter at [@MBRNFsTBNB](https://twitter.com/MBRNFsTBNB).

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